

Senate Journal

Eighty-Ninth Regular Session

10:00 A.M.

WEDNESDAY, January 25, 1989

The senate met.

The senate was called to order by Fred A. Risser, president of the senate.

The roll was called and the following senators answered to their names:

Senators Andrea, Buettner, Burke, Chilsen, Chvala, Cowles, Czarnecki, Davis, Ellis, Feingold, George, Helbach, Jauch, Kincaid, Kreul, Lasee, Leraan, Lorman, Moen, Plewa, Risser, Roshell, Rude, Shoemaker, Stitt, Strohl, Te Winkle, Ulichny, Van Sistine and Weeden — 30.

Absent — Senators Adleman, Engeleiter and Lee — 3.

Absent with leave — None.

The senate stood for a moment of silent prayer.

The senate remained standing and Senator Helbach led the senate in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Senator Strohl, with unanimous consent, asked for a leave of absence for the days session for Senators Adelman and Lee.

Senator Ellis, with unanimous consent, asked for a leave of absence for the days session for Senator Engeleiter.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Read first time and referred:

Senate Bill 18

Relating to requiring parental consent for an unemancipated child's abortion, informed consent of a woman to her own abortion, remedies in civil actions and providing a penalty.

By Senators Plewa, Andrea, Roshell, Kincaid, Van Sistine, Burke, Chilsen, Ellis, Buettner, Kreul, Lasee, Stitt, Weeden, Rude, Cowles and Leraan; cosponsored by Representatives Grobschmidt, Medinger, Hauke, Rohan, Stower, Holschbach, Wood, Williams, Vanderperren, Bolle, Linton, Prosser, Duff, Ott, Goetsch, Porter, Johnsrud, Musser, Deininger, Loucks, Foti, Lorge, Turba, Harsdorf, Schultz, Zeuske, Farrow, Brancel, Lewis, Schneiders, Coleman, Vergeront, Tregoning, Ladwig, Ourada, Lepak, Gard and Klusman.

To committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs.

Senate Bill 19

Relating to lowering the drinking age to 19.

By Senators Van Sistine, Roshell, Feingold, Kincaid and George; cosponsored by Representatives Carpenter, Bolle, Volk, Hasenohrl, Hamilton, Gronemus, Zweck, Clarenbach, Roberts, Williams, Boyle, Seery, Huber, Gard, Musser, Schmidt and Welch.

To committee on Labor, Business, Insurance, Veterans' and Military Affairs.

Senate Bill 20

Relating to employes of the board of school directors of a 1st class city school district.

By Senators Czarnecki and Ulichny; cosponsored by Representative Notestein.

To committee on Education, Economic Development, Financial Institutions and Fiscal Policies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The committee on Urban Affairs, Environmental Resources, Utilities and Elections reports and recommends:

Senate Bill 3

Relating to compensation for sheriffs.

Passage:

Ayes, 6 -- Senators Lee, Chvala, Adelman, Burke, Lasee and Kreul;

Noes, 0 -- None.

Senate Bill 5

Relating to the membership of the Milwaukee river revitalization council.

Passage:

Ayes, 6 -- Senators Lee, Chvala, Adelman, Burke, Lasee and Kreul;

Noes, 0 -- None.

Mordecai Lee
Chair

The Chair appointed Senators Strohl and Ellis to await upon the Governor.

Senator Strohl, with unanimous consent, asked that **Senate Bill 7** be withdrawn from the committee on Judiciary and Consumer Affairs and referred to the joint committee on Finance.

The senate proceeded in a body to the Assembly Chamber to meet in Joint Convention to receive the State of the State Message.

IN ASSEMBLY CHAMBER
IN JOINT CONVENTION

The President of the Senate in the chair.

The committee to await upon the Governor appeared with his excellency the Governor, who delivered his message as follows:

Introduction

Members of the Supreme Court, Lieutenant Governor McCallum, President Risser, Speaker Loftus, elected state office holders, members of the cabinet, distinguished guests, and fellow Wisconsinites.

Wisconsin historian and author Alice E. Smith once observed that the people of Wisconsin are something of an enigma.

"Through the years they have sustained a remarkably cohesive society," she wrote, "despite the unusual diversity of their cultural and economic interests.

"They have taken pride in the stability of their institutions, even as they have made Wisconsin a laboratory to test the new and the untried.

"They have built well, for the future as well as for the present."

Ladies and gentlemen, Alice Smith knew what she was talking about.

And the traditions that made Wisconsin great through the years are continuing today.

During the last two years, working together, as the "cohesive society" Mrs. Smith wrote of, we have tried new approaches ... and ... we have built well for the future as well as for the present.

Together, we have dared to live up to the expectations of greatness that our forefathers had envisioned.

And we have been successful!

Our partnerships are strong: labor and management ... local and state officials ... business leaders and educators.

And our record of accomplishment is impressive!

The "State" of: the Economy & Jobs

We have rebuilt the Wisconsin economy to become the envy of the midwest, and the charging thoroughbred of the nation.

Our tax policies have worked. And our vision to move Wisconsin "forward" has produced sparkling results.

By virtually every economic indicator, Wisconsin moved forward ... and, at a record setting pace.

-- not since World War II has Wisconsin recorded a two-year period of jobs growth and economic prosperity like that of 1987 and 1988.

-- in the last two years we have added more people to the workplace than the entire population of Madison. More than 200,000 new workers ... our largest seasonally-adjusted workforce in state history.

-- we've driven unemployment to a record low ... all the way down to November's 15-year low of 4.0 percent.

And I am pleased, at this time, to announce that December's unemployment information has just been tabulated ...

... and the news is even better. In December, the statewide jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent -- the lowest unemployment figure, in Wisconsin, since april of 1970!

-- ladies and gentlemen, in the last two years we have created 48,000 new jobs in our manufacturing sector. Only California, with five times the population, created manufacturing jobs at a faster pace.

-- we've also added 51,000 wholesale and retail positions ... and 38,000 service jobs.

-- our business climate is positive. We're seeing renewed optimism on the loading docks, and confidence about the future in the board rooms.

Last year, that confidence could not have been more evident as construction boomed across the state. A record \$4.6 billion. New homes ... new shopping centers ... new manufacturing plants!

Leeson electric motors in Black River Falls. Gateway foods in Superior ... Perry Printing in Waterloo ... Midland Steel in Janesville ... Ashley Furniture in Arcadia.

-- we recorded nearly 6,400 new business startups last year, and we maintained the distinction of having one of the nation's best new business "success rates."

-- paper mills in Wisconsin experienced yet another record year. We've been the nation's top producer of paper products since 1953, and with continued expansion we will remain "number one!"

I am pleased to report that our mills will be investing more than \$890 million to do exactly that ... expand and grow ... during the next two years.

But while we rank number one in paper products, Wisconsin's position in pulping is 15th ...

... and that is why I have asked the Governor's Council on Forestry and the Department of Natural

Resources to conduct a comprehensive study that will lead to the siting of a new, or expanded, pulp mill in the state.

All across our economy, we're moving, we're growing, we're expanding. And the jobs we have created are good jobs with a secure future.

Gone are the days of billboards urging businesses to "move to Illinois, the land of better business."

Gone are the days of business leaders bemoaning Wisconsin's "anti-business attitude and bureaucratic interference."

And gone are the days of the escape from Wisconsin ads in the Wall Street Journal.

Today, our economy is strong ...

... an economy so strong that Kimberly Clark has invested millions of dollars in three major expansions during the past two years, and company chairman Darwin Smith is calling Wisconsin a great place to do business and create jobs.

... an economy so strong that Oshkosh Furniture Manufacturer John Buckstaff is now expanding his business and reinvesting in Wisconsin's promising future.

... an economy so strong that General Motors Chairman Roger Smith recently declared that Wisconsin is "one of the best places in the country to do business. If all the states were like Wisconsin, it would be better for the country ... and our cars would be cheaper."

Roger Smith is represented here today by Don Penson, G.M.'s Regional Director of Industry and Governmental Relations.

The "State" of: Welfare Reform

Working together, ladies and gentlemen, Wisconsin has recorded a number of other impressive successes.

We implemented a success-oriented welfare reform program that has quickly become the model for national legislation.

Without a question, the best welfare program is a job ...

And in Wisconsin, we are helping to break the chains of dependency by giving recipients the skills they need to succeed in the workplace.

Rhonda Alf, of Evansville, who is with us here today, is a brilliant success story.

Rhonda had been receiving A.F.D.C. for 8 years in order to support her two children.

In 1987, she enrolled in the work experience and job training program, immediately after earning her high school equivalency degree.

She then attended a one-year secretarial program at Blackhawk Technical College, and upon completion, was referred to the department of social services for an 8-week work experience assignment.

Rhonda now has a good-paying, fulltime job ... she is off of welfare ... and she credits her success to Wisconsin's work experience and job training program.

Rhonda's future is bright. Her children are very proud of their mother. And today, her story serves as an inspiration to other single mothers who are working, or even wishing, to learn a new skill, get a job, and become self-sufficient.

I want to thank Senators Strohl and Engeleiter, and Representatives Loftus and Nelsen, for their leadership and bi-partisanship in working with my office to support our welfare reform legislation.

Ladies and gentlemen, anchored by our renewed economy, there are nearly 45,000 fewer A.F.D.C. recipients in Wisconsin today than in 1986.

Our Learnfare Program is up and running ... and it is keeping students in schools, according to principals all around the state.

Last week in his State of the State Message, Democrat Governor Richard Celeste highlighted Ohio's new "Project Learn."

Project Learn will be administered by Paul Offner, a former Democratic State Senator from La Crosse, who says the program is a near-perfect copy of Wisconsin's Learnfare.

In addition to Learnfare, Wisconsin's Workfare program is also up and running, with adults returning to the classrooms and job training sites ...

... and we helped them get there by increasing state funding for Child Care by \$13 million during the last two years. An increase of 169 percent, ladies and gentlemen ... and one of the greatest, if not the greatest two-year percentage increase of any state in the country.

Poverty breeds poverty. A child born into a welfare family very often ends up on welfare. A strong investment in child care provides an "avenue of opportunity" for single parents, especially young mothers, to break the cycle of dependency ... for themselves, and for their children.

Therefore, I will announce additional investments and initiatives in child care in my budget message next week.

The "State" of: Kenosha/South-
Eastern Wisconsin

Last year in Kenosha, we experienced the shock of a major plant closing.

Working together, the City of Kenosha and Kenosha County, and the state were able to negotiate the best possible settlement for Chrysler workers.

Mayor Pat Moran and County Executive John Collins, both of whom are here today, are working very hard for Chrysler workers, and to bring new vitality to the area.

I want to also thank Senator Joe Andrea and all the Kenosha and Racine-area legislators who offered compassion and assistance during this very trying period for Southeastern Wisconsin.

Kenosha did not shut its doors when Chrysler pulled out ... it threw them wide open! ... working aggressively to attract new business and rebuild the local economy.

State government is a strong partner in the recovery ... providing a variety of programs, grants and incentives to create new jobs and diversify the economic base.

This year, for example, the Rustoleum Company will add 200 jobs to the area with construction of its new facility in Kenosha's new Lakeview Industrial Park ...

... we played a critical role by providing Kenosha County with a \$2.5 million grant to extend highway Q from the Industrial Park to Interstate-94.

We also assisted in Manu-Tronics' decision to build a \$2.5 million plant in the same industrial park, adding yet another 300 jobs.

And in Racine, we helped keep Rainfair Manufacturing from moving out of Wisconsin, by providing a grant to retrain the company's 226 employees, and create 80 additional jobs.

But that's not all. I will be recommending in the budget a \$2 million grant to help develop the South Port Marina Project in Kenosha.

The "State" of: Foreign Trade

Overseas, we expanded our export potential by opening new trade offices in Japan and Korea ...

I want to thank all of our legislators, from both parties, who traveled with me and helped to make our trade missions so very successful.

I am very grateful to all of you ... Senators Davis, George, Risser, Rude, Lorman and Roshell ... and Representatives Clarenbach, Hauke, Loftus, Schneiders, and Schneider.

Through our bi-partisan efforts, a number of Wisconsin companies have tapped into new markets and are now selling millions of dollars of Wisconsin products overseas.

One of the most impressive successes came shortly after our November trade mission to Asia. Bill Linton, of Madison's Promega Corporation, has signed a multimillion dollar agreement with Toyo Ink of Japan that will add up to 15 new jobs here in Madison.

I am pleased to report that Wisconsin held a \$615 million trade surplus during the first 10 months of 1988. We are only one of eight states having a trade surplus.

And the future looks even brighter ... as we turn northward, to Canada, and a U.S./Canadian free trade agreement that will reap millions of dollars of new exports, and hundreds of new jobs.

The "State" of: Tourism Promotion

Within Wisconsin, tourism is clearly one of the kingpins of our economy.

With widespread, bi-partisan support, we have increased our investment in tourism promotion more than fourfold, including an emergency \$2 million shot-in-the-arm in early 1987.

The budget I will announce next week calls for other new investments and ideas to strengthen our promotional efforts.

Across our state, our facilities are drawing record crowds. Business so strong in the Dells and Minoqua/Woodruff that shops and attractions suffered a shortage of summer workers.

The "State" of: Transportation

Last year, we further invested in our future by making major transportation improvements in Wisconsin:

-- \$21.6 million in federal, state, and local funds were invested in airport improvements in 27 Wisconsin communities.

-- \$6 million in state funds were invested in roadway improvement projects during the last two years, to help create new job opportunities in Rice Lake, Prentice, Florence, La Crosse, Fort Atkinson, Kenosha, and Janesville.

-- in August, I announced Wisconsin's transportation blueprint for the future ... the corridors 2020 plan ... an aggressive highway development program that identifies key highway corridors we need to improve, so that we can stay economically competitive into the 21st century.

A prime target of the 2020 program is a new highway 29, from Eau Claire/Chippewa Falls to Green Bay.

We will also widen highway 151 from Oshkosh to Dubuque.

And to complement our out-state initiative, I am now putting together an "Urban Mobility" effort to ensure modern transportation systems for the future of Milwaukee and our other major cities.

Last year also brought good news to Wisconsin's air travel industry.

Soon, Milwaukee's General Mitchell Field will add 16 new gates -- and expand its parking significantly. With its potential as a supplemental airport to O'Hare in Chicago, Mitchell Field is becoming a truly national airport.

Our partnership with Milwaukee County includes a two-year, \$4 million budget request to help Mitchell make improvements to handle its rapidly increasing air traffic.

Anticipated growth at the airport could result in as many as 30,000 new jobs in Wisconsin, and as much as an additional \$1.5 billion in total economic impact to the state.

The "State" of: Agriculture

Investing in our future certainly includes paying attention to the needs of rural Wisconsin, and our agricultural economy.

The summer of 1988 will be remembered for the serious drought and its impact on Wisconsin agriculture.

In Wisconsin, we responded quickly, and responsibly.

Legislation was forwarded by both parties and adopted quickly, and in a bi-partisan fashion. I'd like to commend the legislature for its cooperation in adopting the \$35 million drought loan program, and the important drought tax relief measure.

I'd like to specifically recognize Senators Moen, Rude and Van Sistine, and Representatives Brancel, Gronemus, Hubler, Turba, and Tregoning, for their efforts.

Today, Wisconsin's agricultural community faces great challenges. But we are turning the corner ... farm values are leveling off, and farm income is increasing.

These are promising signs in Wisconsin, where agriculture is key to our economic success.

-- we are proud of our continued national leadership in the production of cheese, butter, ginseng, snap beans, sweet corn, and cranberries.

-- we are blessed with a university research network that is second to none.

In the months ahead, we must work very hard to further our position in the world market ... advance new technologies ... and promote the critical link between research and on-farm application.

I will include a strong rural initiative in my budget next week, aimed at further assisting our rural economy.

The "State" of: The Environment

We face no greater responsibility than protecting Wisconsin's environment, and I am proud of what we have been able to do.

1988 marked the second consecutive year that Wisconsin received top honors in a national award program sponsored by the Fund for Renewable Energy and the Environment.

Last year, in what is perhaps our most important land acquisition in nearly 50 years, the state purchased 6,900 acres of the Chippewa Flowage in Northern Wisconsin.

In acquiring this portion of the Flowage, we kept our promise to preserve Wisconsin's unspoiled wilderness areas ... now, and for the future.

Also in 1988, we worked together to improve our state and local parks ...

We invested \$5 million to make high priority repairs and improvements in many of our state parks ...

... and to provide funds for local park development.

In the process, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Strohl and I demonstrated a commitment ... a commitment shared by both sides of the aisle, to promote environmental excellence in Wisconsin.

Working together, we also began a private/public partnership to jointly fund the completion of the Ice Age Trail, and add it to Wisconsin's long list of natural attractions.

During last summer's drought, we faced the most aggressive attempt ever to divert water from Lake Michigan.

I stood up and I said "no!" and I carried the message to Washington, to federal authorities, and to the President. And the diversion request was rejected!

As chairman-elect of both the Council of Great Lakes Governors, and the Midwest Governors Association, I pledge to you that I will continue to do everything in my power to protect our Great Lakes Watershed.

In 1988, we also took steps to keep the water we have in Wisconsin clean and safe. Our new clean water fund provides \$224 million in grants to assist communities as they work to improve and upgrade wastewater treatment facilities.

Also last year, I held the first of what will become semiannual meetings with Minnesota Governor Rudy

Perpich to discuss the environmental concerns we share ...

Governor Perpich and I will be inviting the other Upper Mississippi River Governors to meet us in La Crosse next spring, to form an alliance that will work very hard to protect the Mississippi River as an economic, recreational, and natural treasure.

We also worked together in adopting some of the nation's most stringent rules governing toxic pollution of the air and water.

My fellow Wisconsinites, the state of our state is vibrant! The economy is in good hands. We're alive, we're moving, and we're being noticed!

I applaud all of our legislators, for working so very hard for the betterment of Wisconsin.

And I applaud the people of Wisconsin ... our greatest asset, and our true strength ...

People with a determination and a spirit to do their best ... for one another, and for Wisconsin.

"The Wisconsin Spirit"

-- the "Wisconsin spirit" is alive in Eau Claire ... where, not too many months ago, serious labor/management concerns threatened to shut down the Uniroyal Tire Company, the city's largest employer.

But that didn't happen. Working together ... the local union, led by Jack Zais, who joins us today ... and plant management, represented by Gary Rheinganz ... working together, in a spirit of cooperation, an agreement was reached. And today, the plant remains open, and the future is bright.

-- the "Wisconsin spirit" is alive in Hayward ... home of the Finnish- and Norwegian-based Noresin Company, with manufacturing plants in several countries, and represented here today by plant manager Erling Finne.

The Noresin Company and the new jobs it has brought to Northern Wisconsin is yet another success resulting from our oversea trade missions. Mr. Finne traveled with our group to Oslo, Norway, where he told an audience of important business leaders, "governor, you have the best quality of workforce of all our plants around the world."

Erling, on behalf of Wisconsin, I want to thank you for your comments, and for your faith in Wisconsin's ability to get the job done better than anywhere else in the world.

-- the "Wisconsin spirit" is also alive in Janesville ... at the General Motors Assembly Plant -- another outstanding labor/management success story.

I visited the plant last month to gain firsthand knowledge of Wisconsin's \$9 million investment in an

innovative job training program that has helped to keep the plant open.

It is no secret that in recent weeks we have been talking with GM officials in Detroit, and we are hopeful of expanding production at the Janesville plant in the future.

Labor and management, and state government ... working together ... to make the Janesville assembly plant one of the most innovative facilities in the G.M. family.

I want to recognize Plant Manager Mike Spitzley, and Union President Michael O'Brien, for such an outstanding spirit of cooperation and innovation.

-- and the "Wisconsin spirit" is alive in mineral point, and in Tom Schraeder, a co-owner of the Mineral Point Dairy Queen ... the only Dairy Queen in the country where developmentally disabled workers have shown that they can measure up, and do the job, and succeed. And today, they comprise 20 percent of Tom's workforce.

I attended Tom's ribbon cutting ceremony on the Fourth of July, and I had the privilege of meeting his employees ... including Tom's first employee, Dennis Berg.

All of these people are to be commended for their outstanding "Wisconsin spirit," and for working to make our state an even greater place to live and work and raise a family.

It's this kind of love for Wisconsin, and vision for her future that has been our guiding force over the years.

Keeping Wisconsin Moving Forward,
By "Investing" in the Future

In fact, Wisconsin had been a state for less than one week when, on June 5, 1848, our first Governor, Nelson Dewey, delivered his first message to the new legislature.

It was a message of Wisconsin's beauty ... her hardworking people ... and her potential for greatness.

The Governor began with these words: "Wisconsin possesses the people and the natural elements, fostered by the judicious system of legislation to become one of the most prosperous states of the American Union."

You've heard me say it a little differently.

You've heard me say that "Wisconsin is blessed with the people, and abundance of natural resources, a quality of life that is second to none, and a commitment to excellence that is unsurpassed. And if we continue to work very hard together, as partners, Wisconsin can become the greatest state in the nation."

Ladies and gentlemen, we have been successful. But the job is not finished.

Today, I call on you to help move Wisconsin forward from success to greatness.

And as we embark on the journey of this legislative session, I ask you to work with me, as a partner, in addressing the needs of our state.

Together, we must continue to keep our state economy strong and competitive ... by treating business as the valuable partner that it is.

Winston Churchill put it this way: "Some see private enterprise as a predatory target to be shot, others as a cow to be milked, but few are those who see it as a sturdy horse pulling the wagon."

During 1989, our challenge is twofold ...

... to keep the "wagon" of our economy moving forward ...

... and to invest in our future:

By reaching out to families and the elderly ... by increasing our efforts to help young mothers break the chains of welfare dependency ... by improving educational opportunities for disadvantaged children in Milwaukee's inner city and wherever they are found ... and by attacking the menace of alcohol and drugs

Investing in Education: "Choice"

When we talk about investing in our future ... no issue is more important than education.

Wisconsin is blessed with one of the nation's very finest university and vocational education systems ... and our students consistently score at the top of college entrance exams.

But, there are some problems.

Some of our students, particularly those in Milwaukee's central city neighborhoods, are being left behind.

They are not receiving the quality of education they need to one day get a good job, or to maximize their potential.

We must do better. We cannot be content with the status quo, nor can we be complacent when we know that not all of our children are receiving the best possible education.

Wisconsin is a leader ... and it's time for us to take the lead by giving students and parents a choice in education.

Two weeks ago at a White House Workshop on Choice in Education, I announced my plan to provide our parents the opportunity to choose where their children will attend school.

This is a concept that last week the Christian Science Monitor referred to as "one of the most popular and successful local education reforms in the nation."

It has the support of President Bush, the Brookings Institute, and the Congress of Racial Equality.

Choice in education has resulted in fewer dropouts, higher test scores and satisfied parents, students and teachers in New York, Massachusetts, Minnesota and Maryland.

And statewide choice proposals are being assembled in many states, from California to New Jersey.

All of our children deserve equal opportunity in their education, and we must work together to implement a Wisconsin choice program ...

Clearly, it cannot be done without the help of this legislature.

Investing in Education:
Scholarships for Top Students

My budget will include a very strong program for maintaining Wisconsin's educational excellence. It also includes new opportunities for our students and families.

As a preview, I'd like to highlight two of these initiatives.

Beginning in 1990, the top student in every public and private high school in the state will be eligible to receive free tuition at any University of Wisconsin campus, or vocational campus, for up to four years.

Students planning to attend a private college in Wisconsin would be eligible for scholarships provided jointly by the state and the college.

We have seen far too many of our brightest students go off to schools and universities in other states, and now we're going to do something about it!

Investing in Education:
College Savings Bond Program

I am also pleased to announce a "college savings bond program" that will help families to better afford to send their children to college.

With this program, families will be able to purchase state-issued college savings bonds for as little as \$1,000, and begin saving for their children's future.

All interest would be exempt from federal and state income taxes.

My proposal is simple for people to understand ... it's easy to administer ... and ... it can accomplish the same goals of a similar program that Speaker Loftus plans to introduce.

Let's work together, in a bi-partisan fashion, to get the job done.

Both of these programs ... scholarships for our brightest students, and a savings plan for all our students ... are important investments in our families, and in our future.

Investing in Families: Winning
The War on Drug/Alcohol Abuse

Today in America, the menace of drugs and alcohol is a plague that's tearing apart our families, and destroying the lives and potential of our children.

Wisconsin is not immune from the problem. Drugs and alcohol are causing our citizens to die prematurely ... to fail in school ... to lose their jobs ... to commit crimes ... and to neglect their families.

Annually, alcohol and drug abuse is costing Wisconsin more than \$400 million for medical and rehabilitative services.

Every family knows the devastation that occurs when someone they love abuses alcohol or drugs. In Wisconsin, and across America, the potential for devastation will continue unless we are successful in turning the tide of abuse.

Today, I am asking for your total commitment to the awesome challenge before us. Drug abuse is not a partisan issue. We must work together.

I am grateful for your support of the bi-partisan omnibus alcohol and drug abuse law I signed last year.

This legislation is a product of the first Governor's Statewide Conference on Alcohol and Drug Abuse to be held in over 18 years. I was greatly encouraged that more than 500 Wisconsinites met here in Madison last year to review, reinforce and renew our campaign against alcohol and drug abuse.

1988 also marked the historic beginning of the "alliance for a drug-free Wisconsin." Attorney General Don Hanaway, Superintendent Bert Grover, and I joined together to demonstrate commitment and cooperation, at the highest level, in our continuing war on drugs.

Today, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Tedd O'Connell, of Madison, who will be the Alliance Coordinator.

Tedd, who is with us this morning, will be working with students, educators, parents, police, and other members of local alliances to bring maximum exposure, coordination, and publicity to our education, prevention, and intervention efforts.

Investing in Families:
"Drug-Free" School Zones

I am also pleased to announce an aggressive new proposal to create "drug-free school zones" here in Wisconsin.

If we are going to keep drugs out of the hands of our children ... then we must get tough on pushers who hang around our schools peddling their poison.

I will be introducing legislation that makes possession and distribution of drugs on, or near school premises or a school bus, a much more risky business.

I will ask you to support a proposal calling for a mandatory three-year minimum prison sentence for persons convicted of distributing a controlled substance on or near school grounds or a school bus.

No probation. No parole. Not until the guilty party has served a minimum three years behind bars.

In addition, students and others convicted of possessing a controlled substance in one of these "drug-free zones" will be ordered by the court to relinquish their driver's license for six months, and perform 100 hours of community service.

In my budget, I will also be introducing a measure for increased funding of alcohol and drug abuse prevention programs in our schools.

All of these are important steps in our war on alcohol and drugs.

And here in Wisconsin, our arsenal also includes excellent law enforcement agencies that are getting tougher on users and pushers than ever before.

Last year, from January through June, drug-related arrests in Wisconsin increased by 18 percent ... and during the same period the number of violent crimes fell by 11 percent.

Clearly, there is a direct correlation between illegal drug use and criminal activity.

Our streets are safer today. And I intend to keep them that way.

Investing in Families:
Housing, and the Elderly
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With a determination equal to that of winning the war on drugs, we must also meet the challenge of providing safe, affordable, and decent housing for all our citizens.

Two weeks ago, I unveiled an aggressive proposal to get the job done:

-- the "Block Builder Program," to help residents rebuild Milwaukee's central city neighborhoods ... new and improved, and more affordable rental units for low income residents ... proposals to help young families

afford their first home ... and additional funding to defray operating costs at local shelters for the homeless.

I am also recommending substantial increases in an existing program that helps elderly residents with special needs to stay in their homes and remain as independent as possible.

The community options program is a compassionate response to the unique needs of our elderly, who prefer community-based care to long-term institutional care in nursing homes.

I will be asking for substantial increases in COP funding during fiscal years 1990 and 1991.

This investment in our elderly will allow us to fully fund our current caseload ... and ... provide an annual increase of 1,000 new COP recipients.

Investing in the Environment

Earlier, I reflected on how Wisconsin has protected the Chippewa Flowage for future generations.

A new challenge faces us along the lower Wisconsin Riverway.

The lower Wisconsin Valley, from Prairie du Sac to Prairie du Chien, is a special place for those who love the wonders of nature. It is a ribbon of beauty, with towering, unspoiled bluffs ... free flowing waters ... abundant fish and wildlife ... and, in places, the solitude of wilderness.

But this special place is also a threatened place.

The lower Wisconsin sits in the center of 17 million people who have the potential of loving this natural treasure to death.

The lower Wisconsin river needs protection ...

My budget will recommend the creation of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway to provide protection and management of this statewide resource.

This proposal also recommends ensuring that local interests -- those who have been such good stewards over the years -- have continued say in the river's future.

Our environment is truly a treasure that demands our constant vigilance and protection.

This year the momentum keeps building, as we invest \$12 million in the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

The members of the Council of Great Lakes Governors have collectively pledged to work with our legislatures in establishing this fund.

The protection fund will be a permanent endowment of \$100 million that will be utilized in ongoing efforts to develop research, new clean up technologies, and innovative methods of addressing water pollution problems.

Conclusion, and Challenge

My fellow Wisconsinites ...

Hard work, and cooperation, have made Wisconsin strong once again.

Partnerships have helped to build a new momentum that is moving our state forward ... with confidence, and optimism, and success.

Today, I am asking your sincere commitment to the challenges we face ...

Keeping the economy strong ... helping young mothers break the chains of welfare dependency ... keeping drugs out of the hands of our children ... helping inner city families rebuild their neighborhoods ... providing choice in education ... making the American dream more affordable ... protecting our fragile environment.

I believe that we will succeed ... and tomorrow will be brighter than today ... for all of Wisconsin.

Today, I pledge to you that I will meet you in the middle ... and when necessary, beyond the halfway point, to accomplish our goals of investing in Wisconsin's future.

Yes, we are going to disagree sometimes. And there's nothing wrong with that.

There is a time for partisan debate.

And with the debate comes the best solutions to our needs and problems.

But already the pundits have suggested that this legislative session will be stonewalled by politics.

They are wrong.

It is my hope, and my desire, that together we can carry the torch of Wisconsin accomplishment to greater heights in this new year.

Therefore, today I would like to offer a "toast," and a challenge to each of you:

"Wisconsin. The envy of the midwest, and the charging thoroughbred of the nation. A proud, compassionate, and hardworking people. Working together, may we all dare to live up to the expectations of greatness that our forefathers envisioned. And may our vision for tomorrow be anchored in a spirit of cooperation that moves us ever forward with confidence, compassion, and success."

Last friday our national leadership changed ... and as I sat on the western steps of the capitol, looking down the ellipse and listening to our new president's address, I made note of his concluding comments:

"Some see leadership as high drama, and the sound of trumpets calling and sometimes it is that. But I

see history as a book with many pages -- and each day we fill a page with acts of hopefulness and meaning.

"The new breeze blows, a page turns, the story unfolds. And so today, a chapter begins: a small and stately story of unity, diversity, and generosity ... shared, and written together."

And so it is here in Wisconsin ... a new chapter begins for us.

And those who will look back to see what we have accomplished this year will judge us not by the partisanship of our rhetoric ... but rather, by what we have done together, in unity, for a better Wisconsin.

Upon the motion of Senator Strohl the senate adjourned upon the rising of the joint assembly until 10:00 A.M. Thursday, January 26.

CHIEF CLERK'S CORRECTION

Suggested by Legislative Reference Bureau

1989 Senate Bill 11

1. Page 7, line 4: substitute "(lp)or (lq)" for "(lq) or (lp)".
2. Page 7, line 8: substitute "(lp) or (lq)" for "(lq) or (lp)".